Colonel LaFayette C. Baker, chief of the secret service. Yet, Civil War historians know that such accusations are preposterous. A close personal relationship existed between Lincoln and his secretary of war. While Stanton had a difficult personality owing in part to his diabetic problems, no one should believe he was Lincoln's Brutus. Similarly the breach between Lincoln and the Radical Republicans has been exaggerated; in reality, their differences were akin to the gulf between President Ford and the Reagan Republicans in 1976. And, surely, no sane person believes the Reaganites contemplated assassination of Gerald Ford. Perhaps the best word on Baker's credibility is Allan Nevins, the renowned Civil War historian, who wrote that Baker was "a notorious fabricator of evidence in trials" and whose word is flimsy (The War for the Union [1971], 8: p. 334).

All in all, this book represents a genuine ignorance of history and the use of evidence. The Lincoln Conspiracy makes for awful history, awful fiction — and, yes, even awful television fare!

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This book is the second part of a two-part documentary history of the Harmony Society in Indiana during the period 1820-1824. The first part covered the period 1814-1819 and was reviewed in the Western Pennsylvania Historical Magazine 58 (October 1975). The Indiana Decade is only one part of a much larger work envisioned by Dr. Arndt that will cover the whole history of the Harmony Society from about 1785 to about 1905.

This volume is a continuation of Volume 1 and is not very different from that volume in either format or content. The overall purpose of the work is to tell the history of the Harmony Society through its documents. Although the Harmonists had a fascinating history in the field of technology, manufacturing, town building, farming, and commerce, Dr. Arndt's main interest is their religion. This is quite correct as they were a religious society and everything they did was connected
in one way or another with their religious beliefs. However, as one gets farther along in time, there are less and less documents on religion and more and more documents on economic matters. This is not because the society was any less interested in religion but because there were just fewer documents.

During the period of this volume, the society finally found its economic path. One can trace the change from large-scale farming (there were 20,000 acres in New Harmony) to manufacturing. Even as late as 1822, the Harmonists were not fully committed to the manufacture of cloth. By the time they moved in 1824-1825, they considered themselves a manufacturing society.

It is more likely that the reason the Harmonists returned to Pennsylvania was to get closer to their supply of raw materials and their markets rather than to fulfill their strong desire to make the perfect Oekonomie as Dr. Arndt states in the preface. One finds documents supporting both points of view in this volume.

The Harmony Society went through another change in thinking during this period. This was an outward phase. One would hardly call it an evangelical movement, but they bought or built a printing press and printed a book called Thoughts on the Destiny of Man, which they intended to distribute. At this time, they started to correspond with several newspapers on their ideas, changed their band into a symphony orchestra and started giving public concerts, built a museum (in Pennsylvania in 1827), and did several other things that encouraged public contact. This disastrous phase was over in 1833, but during the period of this book, it was just starting. It indicated that the society had evolved its method of living both religiously and economically and that it was ready to move outside its own walls. At the same time, Rapp and the leaders were placing severe limitations on the ability of the members to withdraw from the society and take their original contributions with them. This factor indicated that there was a division of thinking on their "outwardness" that was later to cause a schism.

Each volume has its own index, which makes it rather difficult and annoying to find items. The index is very good. The citations are excellent and constitute a state-of-the-art bibliography of Indiana history for this period. There are several illustrations which back up the text, and the picture credits are correct in this volume. There is a reprint of the Weingartner map of 1832 that comes with the book and helps one understand the layout of New Harmony.

Both books are very impressive pieces of scholarship on the part
of Dr. Arndt and publishing on the part of the Indiana Historical Society. These books should be in any library that has an interest in this time period. It is hardly the type of book that one would sit down and read from cover to cover (the two volumes contain over 1,700 pages) unless you have an interest like mine. These two volumes are excellent reading for the scholar and are good reference works. Let us hope that the other volumes in the projected series will be published soon.

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The Presbyterian Hospital of Pittsburgh: From Its Founding to Affiliation with the University of Pittsburgh. By Ruth C. Maszkiewicz. (Pittsburgh: Presbyterian-University Hospital, 1977. Pp. xx, 107. Acknowledgments, introduction, illustrations, epilogue, appendix, bibliography, notes. $10.00.)

"The purpose of this research," the author points out, "was to critically analyze the history of the Presbyterian Hospital from its beginning in 1893 to 1927 when it became the core hospital of the medical center of the University of Pittsburgh" (p. 87). The resulting monograph might be described more accurately as a brief account of some of the events leading to the affiliation of Presbyterian Hospital with the University of Pittsburgh. Rather than a history of the hospital, it is limited to only one aspect of that history.

Chapter 1 is a sixteen-page review of early health care and the beginnings of hospitals in Pittsburgh and is heavily based upon a brochure published by Blue Cross in 1959 and the various writings of Agnes Lynch Starrett on the early history of the University of Pittsburgh.

Chapter 2 traces the evolution of Presbyterian Hospital from its founding by Dr. Louise J. Lyle to the late 1920s. Although she lived until 1932, information of Dr. Lyle's interesting and significant career is apparently limited and is drawn largely from a "speech given for fund raising" (p. 42) in 1933 by an unidentified "Reverend Birch of New York City" (p. 17). No attempt is made to place Dr. Lyle or her activities within the broader context of the role of women in medicine in the late nineteenth century. The cursory history of the hospital during these years is fleshed out on the basis of the official records of that institution.